

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 06486 271349Z

65

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CPR-01 NSC-05 PA-01 SS-15

USIA-06 PRS-01 /049 W

----- 015995

R 271324Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9744

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 6486

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, CH, US

SUBJECT: MOURNING AND FUNERAL OBSERVANCES ON DEATH OF PRC CHAIRMAN MAO

REF: STATE 223128

1. PRC EMBASSY IN DAMASCUS OPENED CONDOLENCE BOOK AND SENT CIRCULAR DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO MOST RESIDENT MISSIONS INVITING THEM TO SIGN. US EMBASSY DID NOT RECEIVE NOTE.
2. JOURNALIST WHO VISITED PRC EMBASSY TO SIGN BOOK JUST PRIOR TO VISIT BY SYRIAN BAATH DELEGATION NOTED THAT PRC AMBASSADOR AND ABOUT TEN STAFF MEMBERS WERE LINED UP TO RECEIVE SYRIANS. ALL WORE BLACK ARM BANDS. TV CAMERAS WERE BEING SET UP. LARGE PHOTOGRAPH OF MAO, SURROUNDED BY FLOWERS, FORMED BACKDROP TO TABLE AND CONDOLENCE BOOK.
3. SYRIAN OFFICIALLY DECLARED ONE WEEK OF MOURNING. PRIMIN KHALYFAWI LED LIST OF GOVT AND PARTY FIGURES CALLING AT PRC EMBASSY.
4. AMBASSADOR AND DATT SEND PERSONAL LETTERS OF CONDOLENCE TO PRC COUNTERPARTS. PRC AMBASSADOR LATER VERBALLY EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR HIS APPRECIATION FOR THESE MESSAGES. MURPHY

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Message Attributes

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